



Press Release

International Energy Agency Photovoltaic Power System Programme (IEA PVPS) Publishes a New Report on “Analysis of Long-Term Performance of PV Systems.”

IEA PVPS published its new technical reports on Long-Term PV Performance on Monday 19 January 2015.

Paris, France, 19 January 2015 – Quality and reliability of PV systems remains at the core of discussions about PV competitiveness. In the quest for competitiveness of PV electricity, consistent and predictable performance is expected to reduce PV financing costs and therefore, the cost of PV electricity.

Following four years of PV systems performance and reliability research, the IEA PVPS programme’s Task 13 has begun delivery on a series of five reports summarizing these years of intensive research activities. These reports focus on several aspects of PV performance and reliability and cover the main aspects of quality-oriented activities in the PV sector. The fourth, of the five reports, is now available.

Long-Term Performance of PV Modules

The first three reports published focused on PV performance and the impact of PV module failure, for both crystalline silicon and thin-film technologies. They showed that the question of quality and reliability can be managed in a scientific way and that in recent years much progress has been made, in parallel with the growth of the PV markets and industry.

- This fourth report investigates data supplied from installed operating PV plants in different countries in order to improve understanding of efficiency and reliability issues of current state-of-the-art PV systems.

This new and fourth report concludes that PV systems installed in recent years are in general “**delivering what the salesman says**”, with country differences in annual yield that can well be explained by irradiation or climate zone differences. Based on the analysis of more than 600 PV plants in key countries around the world, the report also identifies numerous root cause of faults that lead to system downtime or low efficiency, expressed by a low overall Performance Ratio.

These reports are establishing a landmark in PV Performance and Reliability assessment, building on the reputation of independence and quality of the IEA PVPS programme since 1993.

About the IEA PVPS Task 13

Task 13 was established in 2010 within the IEA PVPS programme in order to continue to research activities started in the former Task 2. It is today one of the most respected Tasks within the programme, with contributors from all over the world. The Task is co-managed by TÜV Rheinland Energie und Umwelt and the Fraunhofer-Institut für Solare Energiesysteme ISE, both from Germany.

About IEA PVPS

The IEA Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme (PVPS) is one of the collaborative R&D Agreements established within the IEA and, since its establishment in 1993, the PVPS participants have been conducting a variety of joint projects in the application of photovoltaic conversion of solar energy into electricity. The 28 PVPS members are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, EPIA, European Union, France, Germany, International Copper Alliance, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, SEIA, SEPA, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United States.

Contact for Further Information: Ulrike Jahn, Task 13 Operating Agent ulrike.jahn@de.tuv.com

Download the reports here: <http://www.iea-pvps.org/index.php?id=305>